



REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding Office Action mailed February 10, 2004 and the Notice of Failure to Elect Species. In response to the Applicants' "Response to Restriction Requirement" filed on November 5, 2003, the Office Action states that "[t]he reply ... is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): applicant fails to elect a single species." Without acquiescing to the merits of the species election requirement, Applicants respectfully elect to prosecute the species identified in the embodiment of Figure 13.

In this regard, Applicants canceled claims 2, 6, 7, 23 - 44 and 50 - 125 merely to reduce the number of disputed issues. Applicants expressly reserve the right to present the non-elected claims, or variants thereof, in continuing applications to be filed subsequent to the present application. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this response, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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